

AC 4437(2) PLYMOUTH

PLYMOUTH.

PORT HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

1953

REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER,

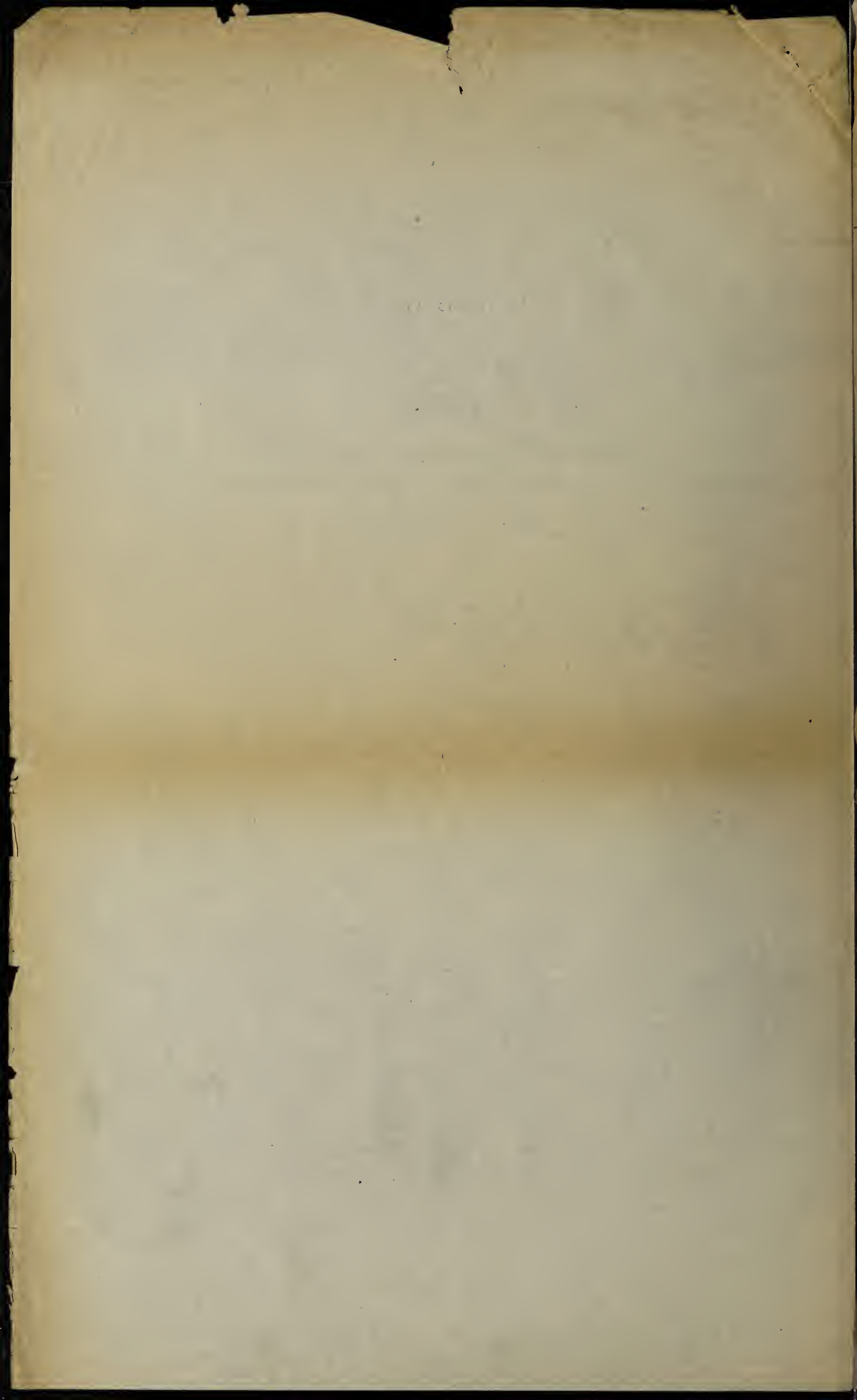
Dr. T. PEIRSON.

This report is in the form and sequence prescribed for Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Port Health Authorities by the Ministry of Health Form Port 20, dated October, 1952.

SECTION I - STAFF.

TABLE A.

NO CHANGE.



DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.	
Foreign Ports	501	1,882,716	149	319	10
Coastwise	1,238	745,640	10	1,071	1
Total.	1,739	2,628,356	159	1,390	11

SECTION III - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C.

	Number of passengers INWARDS	15,764
<u>Passenger Traffic.</u>		
	Number of passengers OUTWARDS	1,998

The Total number of passengers remaining on board passenger-carrying vessels entering the Port of Plymouth (exclusive of those shown above) was 41,582

## Cargo Traffic.

## Principal IMPORTS

## Foreign :

Fertilisers from Antwerp and Hamburg.  
Phosphates from Sfax, Casablanca, Antwerp, and Rouen.  
Potash from Hamburg, Antwerp, and Bremen.  
Basic Slag from Rouen and Dunkirk.





Potatoes from Treguier.  
 Fresh Fruit from Holland and France.  
 Preserved Meats from Holland.  
 General Foodstuffs from Holland.  
 Onions from Roscoff and Rotterdam.  
 Timber from Vancouver, Gothenburg, Kotka, Kemi,  
 Oslo, Bayonne, and Mantyluoto.  
 Grain from Vancouver.  
 Oyster Shells from Frederikssund.  
 Fuel Oil from Trinidad and Baytown.

#### Coastal :

Coal from South Wales and North-East Ports.  
 Vaporizing Oil, Gas Oil, Petrol, Kerosene, and  
 Paraffin from Fawley, Hamble, and Swansea.  
 Motor Oil and Fuel Oil from Hamble, Avonmouth,  
 Thameshaven, Fawley,  
 Swansea, and Falmouth.  
 Fertilisers and Phosphates from Middlesborough  
 and Immingham.  
 Cement and Asphalt from London and Shoreham.  
 Grain from Avonmouth and Newport (I.o.W.).  
 Stone from Newlyn.  
 Potatoes from Belfast, Londonderry, Kilkeel,  
 and Dundrum.  
 Fish from Deep Sea Fishing Grounds.  
 Margarine, Peas, Soups, Cooking Fats, Sauces,  
 Syrup, Tinned Fruit, Flour, Jam, Biscuits,  
 Macaroni, Tapioca, Lentils, and Custard Powder  
 from Liverpool.  
 Sauces, Flour, Peas, Margarine and Cooking Fats  
 from London.  
 Coffee, Tinned Vegetables, Cereals, Apples, Soups,  
 Tinned Milk, and Meat from Glasgow and Belfast.  
 Oats from Aberdeen.

#### Principal EXPORTS

Granite chippings and China Clay.

#### Principal Ports from which ships arrive :

<u>Asia and Australasia.</u>	<u>Europe.</u>	<u>America.</u>	<u>Africa.</u>
Hong Kong	Amsterdam	Baytown	Beira
Rangoon	Antwerp	Boston	Cape Town
	Bayonne	Buenos Aires	Casablanca
Wellington, (N.Z.)	Bergen	Curacao	Nemours
	Bordeaux	Georgetown,	Sfax
	Bremen	(P.E.I.)	Takoradi
	Brest	Kingston, (Jamaica)	Tripoli
	Caen	New York	
	Calais	Newport, (R.I.)	
	Cork	Norfolk, (Va.)	
	Danzig	Paramaribo	
	Delfzyl	Pointe à Pitre	
	Dublin	Port Limon	
	Dunkirk	Port of Spain	





Europe.

Frederikssund  
Gibraltar  
Gothenburg  
Granville  
Guernsey  
Halden  
Hamburg  
Huelva  
Jersey  
Kemi  
Kotka  
Le Havre  
Malta  
Mantyluoto  
Narvik  
Oslo  
Roscoff  
Rotterdam  
Rouen  
St. Malo  
Treguier

America.

Quebec  
Valparaiso  
Vancouver

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SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There is no inland barge traffic at the Port.

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SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY.

NO CHANGE.

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SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

Paragraphs (1), (2) (a) and (b), (3), and (4) - NO CHANGE.

Paragraph (5) (a) - Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox)

The Beacon Park Isolation Hospital, Plymouth, is now known as the Scott Isolation Hospital, Plymouth.

Paragraph (5) (b) and (c) - NO CHANGE.

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## SECTION VII - SMALLPOX.

### (1) Isolation Hospitals available.

The first case or cases would be admitted to the Smallpox Hospital, Liskeard, Cornwall (Telephone : Liskeard 2385), staffed from the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth (Telephone : Plymouth 4311 and 61437. Physician-Superintendent : Dr. D.F. Johnstone).

Should it appear likely that more extensive accommodation would be required, arrangements would be made for the Lee Mill Smallpox Hospital, at present used for convalescent orthopaedic cases, to be re-opened as a Smallpox Hospital.

### (2) Arrangements for the transport of cases to hospital.

The launch "ARGUS" of the Plymouth Port Health Authority based at Millbay Docks, Plymouth (Telephone : Plymouth 2821, Ext. 245 by day, and Plymouth 61441 at night and week-ends) is available to transport cases from ship to shore. The crew were re-vaccinated in December, 1952. Ambulances of the Plymouth City Council's Ambulance Service (Telephone : Plymouth 4101) are available to transport cases to hospital. Drivers and attendants who might be allotted to such duties were re-vaccinated in December, 1952.

### (3) Smallpox Consultants.

Plymouth and Cornwall : Dr. D. F. Johnstone, Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth.  
Telephone : Plymouth 4311, 61437  
and 3358.

Devon and Cornwall : Dr. W.A. Lister, 7 The Crescent, Plymouth.  
Telephone : Plymouth 5701 and Devonport 40.

Devon and Cornwall : Dr. C. Seward, 20 West Southern Hay, Exeter.  
Telephone : Exeter 2110 and Exmouth 4120.

### (4) Facilities for the Laboratory Diagnosis of Smallpox.

Materials for the collection of specimens from suspected cases are always available at the Port Health Office, Plymouth. Specimens would be forwarded to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London N.W.9.

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for the purchase of ...

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Witness my hand and seal this ... day of ...

Attest my hand and seal this ... day of ...

Witness my hand and seal this ... day of ...



# SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE.

Location of facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease, and days and hours of attendance - NO CHANGE.

During the year, 49 British and 8 Foreign seamen (total 57) were treated at the Venereal Disease Clinic.

The Nationalities were as follows :-

British.....49    Danish.....3    Dutch.....3    Swedish.....1  
French.....1

## SECTION IX -- CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS.

TABLE D.

Category	Disease.	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports....	Chicken pox	2	-	2
	Measles	3	-	1
	Mumps	5	-	2
	Pneumonia	-	1	1
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.....	Chicken pox	2	-	2
Cases landed from other ships.....	Chicken pox	-	1	1

## SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

There were no cases of malaria brought to notice in ships arriving at Plymouth during the year.

## SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

No plague infected or suspected ships entered the Port during the year.



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SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN  
SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

(1) All ships arriving at the various wharves are boarded by the Port Health Inspector, and enquiries made of the officers and crew as to evidence of rat infestation. Foremen Stevedores are also questioned as to the presence of rats. Where rat infestation is found, trapping or poisoning is carried out by the Rodent Operator.

(2) All rats caught are destroyed, and specimens are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth. During the year, five rats were examined, with no evidence of plague infection.

(3) Deratting of ships is carried out by fumigation with hydrocyanic acid gas. These fumigations are carried out by private firms under the supervision of the Port Health Authority.

The names of Commercial Contractors who have carried out the fumigation of vessels at this Port are :

1. Fumigation Services, Ltd., Barking, Essex.
2. London Fumigation Co., London, E.C.3.

Small infestations are dealt with as necessary by the Local Authority's Rodent Operator, using "warfarin".

(4) It has been noticed that rat-proofing principles have been adopted in the construction of new vessels. There has been a marked decrease in the number of rats found on board older-type vessels.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category	Number
Black rats.....	4
Brown rats.....	-
Species not known.....	-
Sent for examination...	-
Infected with plague...	-

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The first part of the history of the world is the history of the creation of the world and the history of the first man, Adam. The second part is the history of the world from the time of Adam to the time of the birth of Jesus Christ. The third part is the history of the world from the time of the birth of Jesus Christ to the present time.

The fourth part is the history of the world from the time of the birth of Jesus Christ to the present time. The fifth part is the history of the world from the time of the birth of Jesus Christ to the present time.

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Year	Event
1600	Discovery of America by Christopher Columbus
1607	First English settlement in America at Jamestown
1620	Pilgrims arrive at Plymouth
1630	Massachusetts Bay Colony founded
1639	First American newspaper published
1642	First American university founded



Rats destroyed in docks, quays, wharves, and warehouses.

Category	Number
Black rats.....	119
Brown rats.....	195
Species not known....	-
Sent for examination.	5
Infected with Plague.	-

The number of mice destroyed by poisoning was 205.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Number of Deratting Certificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued.
After fumigation with		After trapping	After poisoning	Total		
HCN	Other fumigant (state method)					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
-	-	-	-	-	25	25





Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. (Application to Shipping)  
Order, 1951.

Under the above Regulations, 8 Rodent Control Certificates were issued to coastal vessels found free from infestation with rats and mice.

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SECTION XIII - INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Category of nuisance and number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	Complied with
British	1,102	-	12	8
Other Nations	288	-	3	-
Total	1,390	-	15	8

SECTION XIV - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948.

NO CHANGE.

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SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

Paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) - NO CHANGE.

Paragraph (4) - During the year, the number of incoming aliens was 7,583. The number of outgoing aliens was 241.

Paragraph (5) - NO CHANGE.

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SECTION XVI- MISCELLANEOUS.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease :

NO CHANGE.



The following table shows the results of the experiments conducted on the 15th and 16th of May 1881. The first column gives the number of the experiment, the second column the time taken for the reaction to take place, and the third column the amount of gas evolved.

Table I. - Results of experiments on the 15th and 16th of May 1881.

No. of experiment. Time taken for reaction to take place. Amount of gas evolved.

No. of experiment.	Time taken for reaction to take place.		Amount of gas evolved.	
	First trial.	Second trial.	First trial.	Second trial.
1	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.4
2	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5
3	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.6
4	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.7
5	1.6	1.5	1.9	1.8
6	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.9
7	1.8	1.7	2.1	2.0
8	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.1
9	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.2
10	2.1	2.0	2.4	2.3

The results of the experiments show that the time taken for the reaction to take place increases with the amount of gas evolved. This is in accordance with the theory that the reaction is a first-order reaction.

The following table shows the results of the experiments conducted on the 17th and 18th of May 1881.

Table II. - Results of experiments on the 17th and 18th of May 1881.

No. of experiment. Time taken for reaction to take place. Amount of gas evolved.

The results of the experiments show that the time taken for the reaction to take place increases with the amount of gas evolved. This is in accordance with the theory that the reaction is a first-order reaction.

The following table shows the results of the experiments conducted on the 19th and 20th of May 1881.

The results of the experiments show that the time taken for the reaction to take place increases with the amount of gas evolved. This is in accordance with the theory that the reaction is a first-order reaction.

Table III. - Results of experiments on the 19th and 20th of May 1881.

## Infectious Diseases.

No major infectious disease occurred within the area of the Authority during 1953.

### Cases landed at the Port :

1. 4th February. One British member of the crew of the S.S. "RHODESIA STAR" was landed, suffering from chicken pox, and admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth.
2. 30th March. One British passenger, suffering from chicken pox, was landed from the S.S. "LIBERTE", and proceeded by rail to Sussex.
3. 5th April. Two British passengers suffering from Mumps were landed from the S.S. "COTTICA", and admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth.
4. 20th April. Three British passengers were landed from the S.S. "QUEEN MARY" suffering from mumps. One was admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, and two proceeded by rail to their home address.
5. 21st August. Three British passengers, suffering from Measles, were landed from the S.S. "COLOMBIE" and admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth.
6. 23rd December. One British passenger, suffering from chicken pox, was landed from the S.S. "REINA DEL PACIFICO" and proceeded by rail to her home address.

### Cases of non-infectious disease were dealt with as follows :

1. 27th January. One Mexican passenger, suffering from Bronchitis, was landed from the S.S. "ILE DE FRANCE" and proceeded by rail to London.
2. 31st January. One of the crew of the French Fishing Vessel "ARMAND CRISPIN" was landed, suffering from Cellulitis of the left arm, and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth.
3. 20th February. One of the crew of the Yugoslavian vessel "KOZARA" was landed, suffering from head injuries, and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Freedom Fields, Plymouth.
4. 18th April. One British passenger, suffering from Paralysis, was landed from the S.S. "MAROC" and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.
5. 20th April. One British member of the crew of the S.S. "QUEEN MARY" was landed, suffering from Pulmonary Embolism, and admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth.
6. 4th May. One Dutch member of the crew of the S.S. "TOMINI" was landed, suffering from Tonsillitis, and admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth.
7. 25th June. One British passenger, suffering from Pyrexia, was landed from the S.S. "LIBERTE" and admitted to the Charlton Nursing Home, Plymouth.







8. 16th July. One of the crew of the "AMERICAN SHIPPER" was landed, suffering from stomach pains, and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.
  9. 26th July. One British passenger, suffering from Epileptic seizures, was landed from the S.S. "LEICESTERSHIRE" and admitted to Moorhaven Hospital, Bittaford.
  10. 29th July. One British passenger, suffering from a shoulder injury, was landed from the S.S. "LIBERTE" and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Freedom Fields, Plymouth.
  11. 8th August. One Irish passenger, suffering from Insanity, was landed from the S.S. "ITALIA" and admitted to Moorhaven Hospital, Bittaford.
  12. 13th August. One British passenger, suffering from spinal compression, was landed from the S.S. "CITY OF EXETER" and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.
  13. 29th August. One French member of the crew of the S.S. "FLANDRE" was landed, suffering from a perforated ulcer, and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Devonport.
  14. 3rd September. One British passenger, suffering from Insanity, was landed from the S.S. "ITALIA" and admitted to the Moorhaven Hospital, Bittaford.
  15. 1st October. One British passenger, suffering from Insanity, was landed from the S.S. "ITALIA" and admitted to the Moorhaven Hospital, Bittaford.
  16. 18th October. One British member of the crew of the S.S. "ARDGLEN" was landed, suffering from hand and facial burns, and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.
  17. 24th November. One of the crew of the Danish vessel S.S. "GROENLAND" was landed, suffering from Catarrhal Jaundice, and removed to the British Sailors' Society, Octagon, Plymouth.
  18. 18th December. One of the crew of the Italian vessel "PIETRO BERGONZO" was landed, suffering from Cerebral Thrombosis, and admitted to the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.
  19. 20th December. Two British passengers, suffering from Insanity, were landed from the S.S. "ATLANTIC" and admitted to the Moorhaven Hospital, Bittaford.
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1. The first part of the book is devoted to a general  
introduction of the subject, and to a description of the  
materials used in the experiments.

2. The second part contains a description of the  
apparatus used in the experiments, and of the  
method of making the observations.

3. The third part contains a description of the  
results of the experiments, and of the conclusions  
drawn from them.

4. The fourth part contains a description of the  
theoretical considerations which are necessary to  
explain the results of the experiments.

5. The fifth part contains a description of the  
conclusions which are drawn from the results of the  
experiments.

6. The sixth part contains a description of the  
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experiments.

7. The seventh part contains a description of the  
conclusions which are drawn from the results of the  
experiments.

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experiments.

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conclusions which are drawn from the results of the  
experiments.

12. The twelfth part contains a description of the  
conclusions which are drawn from the results of the  
experiments.



Food Inspection :

During the year, 279 vessels were dealt with under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948. There were 82 from foreign ports, and 197 coastwise.

The total amount of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unsound, unwholesome, and unfit for human consumption consisted of 27½ lbs. of Fruit Salad in 28 tins.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1948.

No samples of food were taken during the year.

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The following specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth, for examination :-

Nature of Specimen	From	Examined for :	Result.
1 Black rat	Western Counties Agricultural Association	Plague	No evidence of Plague
1 Black rat	Western Counties Agricultural Association	Plague	No evidence of Plague
1 Black rat	No.10 Store, British Railway Docks.	Plague	No evidence of Plague
1 Black rat	Victoria Wharves	Plague	No evidence of Plague
1 Black rat	Victoria Wharves	Plague	No evidence of Plague.



